Australia’s 2019 Churchill Fellowship Award Recipients Announced

• The Winston Churchill Trust is today awarding Churchill Fellowships to 115 Australians from all walks of life
• These Australians will travel collectively for more than 5,000 days to over 30 countries at a cost of $3.35m
• Their projects explore some of the most pressing and emerging challenges Australia is facing
• Churchill Fellows are funded to travel internationally to gather insights and knowledge that will benefit Australia.

One hundred and fifteen visionary Australians will travel around the world in 2020 as recipients of the prestigious Churchill Fellowship award, offering them a life-changing opportunity to meet and work with leaders of influence to gain and exchange knowledge as well as experience for the betterment of themselves, their industry, community and Australia.

“Churchill Fellowships recognise people with passion and drive, providing an unrivalled opportunity and freedom for people to experience world’s best practice on issues that matter to Australian communities,” said CEO of the Churchill Trust, Mr Adam Davey.

This year Churchill Fellowships have been awarded people from cities and towns across Australia including 24 from NSW, 22 from VIC, 20 from QLD, 14 from WA, 8 from the ACT, 10 from SA, 10 from TAS and 7 from the NT.

This year’s Churchill Fellows will research a staggering variety of issues including predator reduction techniques in farming, preparing athletes for international para-climbing competition, Italian baking and heritage trade training.

“You really need to read the full list of recipients to understand the inspirational range of people, issues and communities in Australia that the Churchill Fellowships announced today will support,” said Mr Davey.

It is 54 years since the first Churchill Fellowships were awarded in honour of Sir Winston Churchill, however the projects that will be aided by his legacy are still, as he intended, firmly focussed on the future.

“While the award we offer may be steeped in history, we are proud that it still remains extraordinarily relevant. Churchill Fellows are up for a challenge, they are people who can foresee an opportunity, know how to address it and will use this experience to work with and learn from their international peers and some outstanding thought leaders.

“Each and every one of the 115 Churchill Fellows will return to Australia armed with the practical knowledge and experience needed to advance their projects and create new opportunities in Australia,” added Mr Davey.

Churchill Fellowship applications open again on 1 February 2020.


For interviews with the newly awarded Churchill Fellows or CEO Adam Davey please call media contact:

Julia George or Emma Robertson 02 6247 8333. Julia George outside office hours 0413 522 792
History of Churchill Fellowships and The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust

Five decades ago, just four weeks after the death of Sir Winston Churchill on 28 February 1965, the “Churchill Memorial Sunday” doorknock appeal was held across Australia.

The doorknock was to raise funds for an unusual type of memorial to Sir Winston - something like Rhodes Scholarships, but more egalitarian, and available to all people and on a much wider basis.

The concept, endorsed by Churchill before he died, was Fellowships, bearing his name, for ordinary people - providing a unique opportunity to travel, learn, and bring knowledge back to their country.

Such was the admiration and respect that Australian fighting men and women of World War II held for Churchill, that this became the greatest one-day doorknock in Australian history.

Funds collected from everyday Australians together with donations from Government and Australian companies totalled the princely sum of 2,206,000 Pounds ($4,412,000).

That laid the foundation for an incredible opportunity – Fellowships offered annually and worth on average $27,000 each, available to Australians who want to make a difference.

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust was established to administer not only the total funds raised by the 1965 Appeal, but also the Churchill Fellowship award scheme.

Since the inception of the Churchill Trust, more than 4,400 Australians have identified projects where overseas research allowed them to bring back vital networks and skills.
2019 Churchill Fellowship Recipients and their Projects

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Mr Timothy Bevitt ACT Lyneham
The Gilbert Spottiswood Churchill Fellowship to investigate how intergenerational play and creativity can be used to build cohesive communities - New Zealand, USA, UK, Finland

Ms Farzana Choudhury ACT Braddon
To empower people facing poverty through social and housing status rights-based models - New Zealand, USA, Canada, UK

Mr Joel Dignam ACT Lyneham
To learn how to build an organisation to grow the power of renters to advocate for social change - UK, USA, New Zealand

Dr Arnagretta Hunter ACT Yarralumla
The Bob and June Prickett Churchill Fellowship to learn skills in Narrative Medicine for education of medical students, doctors, patients and families - UK, USA, Netherlands

Mr Ali Khan ACT
To enhance support for gay male survivors of domestic violence - UK

Dr Laura Macfarlane-Berry ACT Kingston
The Dr Dorothea Sandars Churchill Fellowship to investigate veterinary field epidemiology training programs for improved animal and public health - Thailand, China, Mauritius, Madagascar, Italy, USA, Canada

Mr Seyi Onitiri ACT Campbell
To evaluate the suitability of programs for self represented litigants for Australian courts - USA

Ms Nicola Palfrey ACT Holt
To understand how to make exposure to trauma and adversity in childhood a public health issue - USA, UK

NEW SOUTH WALES

Mr Matthew Allen NSW Newcastle West
To investigate successful impact measurement approaches for community reuse enterprises - New Zealand, USA, UK, Belgium

Mr Daniel Busch NSW Mudgee
The Lord Mayor’s Bushfire Appeal Churchill Fellowship to innovate career pathways for Indigenous peoples into rural fire service agencies - South Africa, USA, UK

Mr Peter Carter NSW Neutral Bay
To understand international best practice and capabilities of Australian national food traceability - Vietnam, China, UK, Ireland, Belgium, Italy, Canada, USA

Ms Jacqueline Charles NSW Wollstonecraft
The Northern Districts Education Centre (Sydney) Churchill Fellowship to research best practice in the design and delivery of court education programs for school students - Singapore, UK, USA, Canada

Dr Mark Dexter NSW Pymble
The Dr Lena Elizabeth McEwan and Dame Joyce Dawes Churchill Fellowship to develop Laser Interstitial Thermal Therapy as a novel therapy for epilepsy and brain tumours - USA

Miss Nadishani Fernando NSW Dubbo
To investigate models of care and treatment for young people with functional somatic conditions - USA, Canada, UK

Mr Joseph Fick NSW Dubbo
To research and document the burial sites of Indigenous soldiers who died overseas during WW1 - UK, France, Belgium

Ms Rebecca Glenn NSW Erskineville
To explore service responses to women experiencing or escaping domestic financial abuse - USA, Canada, UK

Mr Russell Harrison NSW Manly
To develop an effective strategy for regulating illegal accommodation in Australia - USA, UK, France, Netherlands, Germany, Spain, China

Dr Madeleine Hartley NSW Wollstonecraft
To improve our legal frameworks' response to water scarcity by learning from the global experience - South Korea, UK, USA, Mexico, Chile

Dr Ana Heitor NSW Wollongong
To investigate bio-mediated soil stabilization applied to Australian conditions - USA, Singapore

Dr David Kim-Boyle NSW Sydney
To investigate design and development strategies for augmented reality music applications - USA

Mr Michael McSweeney NSW Tumut
The Blakeney Milliar Foundation Churchill Fellowship to study ways of engaging isolated people through local theatre in small communities - New Zealand, USA, Canada

Mr Murray Norman NSW Hurstville
To explore best Practice in Religious Education worldwide to enhance RE in a multicultural Australia - India, Israel, UK, Germany, USA

Associate Professor David Och NSW Condell Park
To develop a Statewide sustainable GIS geotechnical database to capture present data for the future - Malaysia, China, UK, Netherlands, Switzerland

Ms Joanne Philipson NSW Killara
To make a comparative assessment of strategies to effectively manage prosecution disclosure - UK, Canada, USA

Ms Kim Samuel NSW Bondi
To explore innovative options for disability housing that focus on user-choice and self-determination - USA

Dr Graham Sattler NSW Lidster
To evaluate international best-practice Musical Inclusion models for application in Australia - Armenia, UK, Ireland, Portugal, Canada, USA

Ms Philippa Stevens NSW Ashfield
To benchmark the balance of access, security and preservation for significant library collections - UK, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Italy, USA

Ms Sharon Taylor NSW East Seaham
To implement cross-cultural education within NSW Health based on Aboriginal pedagogies (8Ways) - New Zealand, USA, Canada

Miss Elaine Thomson NSW North Avoca
To explore methods to ensure vulnerable families receive a child protection service that upholds dignity and social justice - Canada, UK

Miss Melinda Tually NSW Darlinghurst
To understand best practice garment manufacturing upholding workers rights and paying living wages - Vietnam, Cambodia, India, UK, USA

Associate Professor Nicholas Wood NSW Manly Vale
To improve our clinical advice and management of vaccine reactions for the Australian community - USA, Canada, Switzerland
**Ms Ingrid Johanson** 
NT Milingrida  
The Peter Mitchell Churchill Fellowship to investigate philanthropic models connecting remote women's social enterprise to broad networks - USA, Guatemala, India, New Zealand

**Ms Traci (Tracey) Keys** 
NT Stuart Park  
To increase effective and supportive options for women experiencing sexual harassment in the workplace - Canada, USA, UK, Ireland

**Ms Naomi Lacey** 
NT Moulden  
To study peak community garden bodies to continue the development of our national organisation - UK, Ireland, Netherlands, USA

**Miss Samantha Nowland** 
NT Gunn  
The Yulgilbar Foundation Churchill Fellowship to address the challenges facing remote Aboriginal communities in the culture of native rock oysters - Canada, USA, France

**Ms Anna Reynolds** 
NT Stuart Park  
To investigate art textile hubs, focusing on sustainable manufacturing and global markets - Italy, Switzerland, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, UK

**Mr Alphonsus Shields** 
NT Araluen  
The ANZSOG Churchill Fellowship to promote indigenous employees groups in middle management positions within government - New Zealand, USA, Canada

**Ms Christina Spargo** 
NT Rapid Creek  
To learn how to teach Taiko (Japanese drumming) to people living with dementia - Japan, USA, Germany, UK

**Associate Professor Deborah Askew** 
QLD Tarragindi  
To research holistic Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder prevention in urban Indigenous communities - Canada, USA

**Ms Clytie Binder** 
QLD Woolloongabba  
To explore education methods and partnership models to support community composting - USA, Canada, Cuba

**Dr Paulo Borges** 
QLD Middle Park  
The Auto Skills Australia Churchill Fellowship to bridge the gap between autonomous vehicles and individuals with mobility difficulties - USA

**Mr Aaron Brown** 
QLD Newmarket  
The Mr and Mrs Gerald Frank New Churchill Fellowship to research the performance practice of medieval and baroque music - Greece, Italy

**Ms Bianca Bulley** 
QLD Red Hill  
The Stuart and Norma Leslie Churchill Fellowship to gain international costume tailoring skills to address a national skill shortage in the field - UK

**Dr Amanda Cahill** 
QLD Annerley  
The Bob and June Pritchett Churchill Fellowship to study how climate action can build regional economies that are more resilient, just and prosperous - Spain, UK, Belgium, Netherlands, France, Italy, Sweden

**Ms Petah Chapman** 
QLD Tarzali  
To pursue excellence in opera and build international relationships with cultures in which opera thrives - UK, Denmark

**Ms Jennifer Davis** 
QLD North Ipswich  
To investigate footwear last design and manufacture techniques including 3D printing of footwear lasts - Spain, Germany, UK, Finland, USA

**Mrs Nadia de Silva** 
QLD Hendra  
To investigate improving language outcomes for brain tumour patients undergoing awake craniotomies - France, Belgium, Netherlands, USA

**Dr Ashley Field** 
QLD Smithfield  
To conduct the first census of type materials for all 526 Australian fern and lycophyte species - UK, France, Denmark, Italy

**Mrs Louise Hallo** 
QLD The Gap  
To support young people develop healthy and safe strategies when engaging in sexual relationships - USA

**Inspector David Hickey** 
QLD Greenslopes  
To analyse appropriate procedures for the investigation of police critical incidents - USA, Canada, UK, Ireland, Thailand

**Mr Russell Kelley** 
QLD Alligator Creek  
The Dr Dorothea Sandars and Irene Lee Churchill Fellowship to renew a proven, easy-to-use, tool for self directed learning and training in coral identification - UK, Germany, Italy, Indonesia

**Ms Jan Maggacis** 
QLD Carindale  
The Community Sector Banking Churchill Fellowship to investigate resilience training methods and develop sustainable leadership models to support the NFP sector - USA

**Ms Lindy Jane Milburn** 
QLD Taringa  
To investigate ways hands-on upcycling actions help reduce textile waste and enhance wellbeing - Japan, USA, UK, Netherlands, Germany

**Dr Yvette Roe** 
QLD Morningside  
To investigate innovative strategies for Indigenous community engagement in maternity services - Canada

**Mr Matthew Smith** 
QLD McDowall  
The James Love Churchill Fellowship to improve the military transition process through education opportunities and employment outcomes - USA, Canada, UK, Israel

**Miss Sian Spencer** 
QLD West End  
To develop and prepare Australian athletes for international paraclimbing competitions - USA, Austria, France, UK

**Ms Michelle Tapper** 
QLD Clayfield  
To study science video production in digital media and develop a financially sustainable model - USA, UK, Switzerland

**Dr Jaclyn White** 
QLD Clayfield  
The Dr Dorothea Sandars and Irene Lee Churchill Fellowship to develop an integrated Ocular Genetic Service to improve care for children with genetic eye disease - UK, USA, Canada

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

**Dr Rami Al-Dirini** 
SA Mitchell Park  
To investigate application of advanced (Bio)mechanical modelling and 3D printing for personalised prosthetic design - UK, Italy, USA

**Ms Trischa Baff** 
SA Valley View  
The Park Family Churchill Fellowship to investigate best practices in heritage trade training for Australia and establish a trainer exchange - UK, New Zealand

**Dr Victoria Cornell** 
SA Unley  
The AV Jennings Churchill Fellowship to investigate alternative, affordable models of housing that could help older Australians to age-in-place - USA, Germany, Denmark, Japan, Singapore

**Ms Elspeth Grant** 
SA Bibaringa  
To revive learning about state and territory perspectives under our national History curriculum - USA, UK, Spain, Thailand

**Mr Evan Marker** 
SA Hawthorndene  
The Bob and June Pritchett Churchill Fellowship to train in the art of stone letter carving and observe the operation of a commercial studio - UK, Belgium
Ms Briony O'Shea SA Toorak Gardens
To understand how barriers to introducing hydrogen into natural gas networks can be overcome - UK, Norway, Germany, France, Turkey

Ms Anastasia Read SA Sunlands
The Churchill Fellows Association of South Australia Churchill Fellowship to investigate family preservation programs in child protection space for Aboriginal families - USA, Canada, Sweden, Belgium

Dr Jared Thomas SA Willunga
To investigate colonised people's interpretative strategies in permanent gallery displays - New Zealand, USA, Canada, Norway

Mr Paul Triglav SA Adelaide
The Dr Susan Nelle Churchill Fellowship to learn artisan baking/patisserie to establish an Italian focused course at TAFE SA - Italy

Mr Aaron Tucker SA Adelaide
The Donald Mackay Churchill Fellowship to enhance understanding of illicit synthetic opioid trafficking and examine border protection programs - China, Canada, USA, Mexico

TASMANIA

Ms Sarah Bayne TAS South Hobart
To design a science centre that will be the public interface of Hobart's new Science Precinct - Philippines, Singapore, Japan, USA, Ireland, Netherlands, Germany, Finland

Mr Timothy Crow TAS Blackwood Creek
The Ron Badman Family Churchill Fellowship to further develop expertise in the cultivation, manufacturing, science, and policy of hemp - Nepal, India, Norway, Sweden, Netherlands, Canada, USA

Mr Adam Dickenson TAS Blessington
To improve community health and wealth through the creation of engineered whitewater/surf facilities - New Zealand, Canada, USA, Germany

Ms Leah Galvin TAS Allens Rivulet
To explore business and government approaches that have increased local food procurement - USA, Canada, Norway, Denmark, Sweden

Mrs Faina Iligoga TAS Mornington
The Tasmanian Churchill Fellows' Association Churchill Fellowship to establish a documentation and healing centre that will teach the history of the genocide in Rwanda - Poland, Rwanda, Cambodia

Mrs Kristy Booth-Lark TAS Kingston
To establish Physic and Apothecary Gardens specifically for distillation, education and tourism - USA, Italy, France, UK

Mr Ian Marmion TAS Lauderdale
The Lamington National Park Churchill Fellowship to investigate methods to manage visitation to protected areas while conserving their intrinsic values - South Korea, China, USA, Canada

Mr Nathan Maynard TAS Hobart
The Dame Roma Mitchell Churchill Fellowship to further hone and develop my craft as a playwright and immerse myself in the running of a First Nations Theatre Company - Canada

Ms Olivia Powell TAS
To advance specialist family violence therapeutic service provision for children in Australia - USA, Canada, Netherlands, UK

Ms Catherine Summer TAS West Hobart
The Gallagher Bequest Churchill Fellowship to research how impact investing and social impact bonds can support legal services for women & children - Singapore, Bangladesh, Amsterdam, UK, USA, Canada

VICTORIA

Dr Natalia Antolak-Saper VIC Beaumaris
To find innovative solutions to assist unrepresented accused in summary criminal matters - USA, Canada, UK

Ms Judith Brewer VIC
To create and expand care farming practices in Australia for autistic adults with acute anxiety - Vietnam, UK, Ireland

Mr James Brown VIC Yarraville
The Dr and Mrs Gerald Frank New Churchill Fellowship to investigate the artistic future of Australian Circus Arts - France, Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden, USA, Canada

Ms Samantha Burchell VIC Albert Park
To promote quality and diversity in an independent judiciary through transparent judicial appointment - South Africa, UK, USA

Dr Susan Carland VIC
The Paul Tys Churchill Fellowship to explore practical strategies for countering Islamophobia - USA, UK

Ms Laura Chipp VIC Richmond
The Jack Brockhoff Foundation Churchill Fellowship to analyse evidence based and best practice approaches to stop recidivism in the youth justice system - New Zealand, USA, UK, Spain, Germany

Dr Jorja Collins VIC Hawthorn
To explore strategies to improve the environmental sustainability of hospital foodservice - USA

Dr Louise Fuller VIC Balwyn
The Sir William Kilpatrick Churchill Fellowship to investigate a variety of post lung transplant rehabilitation models to develop guidelines for Australia - UK, Belgium, USA, Canada

Dr Billy Garvey VIC North Melbourne
To improve child health and development using technology to support evidence-based parenting practice - USA, UK, Sweden

Dr Rachel Kennedy VIC Macleod
To implement exercise programs for Australian children and young people living with neuromuscular disease - UK, Denmark, Netherlands, USA, Canada

Ms Penelope Lee VIC Caulfield South
To research, learn from and build relationships with women's museums - USA, UK

Ms Adongwot Manyol VIC Tarneit
The Peter Mitchell Churchill Fellowship to investigate ways in which Africans have been integrated in other Western multicultural societies - USA, UK, France, Norway

Professor Danielle Mazza VIC Caulfield South
To reduce inequities in access to medical abortion through better integration into primary care - Ireland, Sweden, USA, Canada

Mr Patrick McGee VIC Brunswick
To investigate models of disability supports to people with disability detained in prisons - UK, Ireland, USA, Canada

Mr Markiyan Melnychenko VIC Glen Waverley
The Dr Iain C. Medgett Churchill Fellowship to study pedagogical techniques of the German violin school under renowned violinist Antje Weithaas - Germany

Ms Leanne Mitchell VIC West Footscray
The Jack Brockhoff Foundation Churchill Fellowship to investigate how councils respond to rough sleeping while balancing responsibilities to the wider community - UK, Finland, USA

Mr Michael Reid VIC Wodonga
To investigate community-led programs that support the management of weeds and pest animals - New Zealand, USA, UK, South Africa
Ms Amy Rogers VIC Port Melbourne
To investigate the effectiveness of gender pay equity legislation and regulatory frameworks - UK, Finland, Sweden, Iceland, New Zealand

Mr Ceri Skamp WA Victoria Park
To investigate the impact of rapport building and environment on interviews for victims of child abuse - New Zealand, USA, Canada, UK, Netherlands, China, Philippines

Mr Adam Sandford VIC Greensborough
To study indigenous social housing and ownership models and delivery services - Canada

Dr Jennifer Schumann VIC Port Melbourne
To investigate effective public health policies for preventing opioid misuse - USA, Canada

Dr Virginia Westwood WA Broome
To study aspects of speech recognition specific to learning to speak an endangered oral language - Singapore, Malaysia, France, UK

Dr Sean Stevens VIC North Perth
To explore leading global practices in the use of simulation in surgical education and training - UK, Ireland, USA, Canada

Ms Heather Thomas VIC Thornbury
To increase natural dyeing expertise by investigating established botanical dye studios - USA, Canada, Japan

Ms Leasa Ashton WA Doubleview
To increase quality of life, community and schooling outcomes for adolescents with chronic pain and fatigue - Netherlands, UK, Canada, USA

Ms Jimena Garcia-Vega WA North Perth
The Leslie (Les) J. Fleming Churchill Fellowship to investigate rehabilitation methods to improve function and quality of life in patients with malignant brain tumours - UK, Italy, Canada, USA

Dr Kirsten Hancock WA Leederville
The WA Department of Communities Churchill Fellowship to research factors and contexts linked with successful and failing student absenteeism strategies - New Zealand, USA

Ms Amanda Healy WA South Perth
To complete formal and recognised training in Fashion Design in Europe with subject experts - Italy, UK

Ms Lois Keay-Smith WA Subiaco
To help adults navigate their career interruption, career re-invention and work life after cancer - Canada, USA, UK

Dr Tracey Kreplins WA Grass Valley
To investigate predator management in a farming and agricultural context - South Africa

Miss Sharni Lawler WA Piara Waters
To examine international techniques for the Family Liaison Officer in homicide investigations - UK, Canada, USA

Dr Stephen Macdonald WA Mount Lawley
To develop a best practice approach to diagnosis and management of sepsis across Australia - UK, Ireland, USA, Brazil

Dr Manickam Minakshi WA Leeming
To create new biodegradable polymers with incorporated redox active minerals for energy storage - Sweden, Poland, Germany

Ms Alison Morley WA West Leederville
The Auto Skills Australia Churchill Fellowship to examine installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in low population areas - China, South Korea, USA, Canada, UK, Norway

Ms Cara Peek WA Cable Beach
The Community Sector Banking Churchill Fellowship to improve the social, emotional and economic well-being of Indigenous Australian people - Brazil, USA, Canada

Dr Jennifer Pontre WA Ardross
To gain experience in the management of endometriosis worldwide through observer-ships and courses - United Arab Emirates, France, Belgium, Italy, USA